



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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INTERIOR SECRETARY LUJAN ANNOUNCES NORTHERN SPOTTED OWL RECOVERY TEAM

Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan today announced the creation of a 16-member Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Team which has the charge of writing a recovery plan for the spotted owl. The recovery team is made of a Team Leader and Team Coordinator, who were named earlier by Lujan; representatives appointed by the Governors of Oregon, Washington and California; and additional federal agency appointees.

"I am confident that this team comprises some of the most skilled and knowledgeable individuals necessary to draft a plan for the conservation of the spotted owl," Lujan said. "In addition, the plan will be developed with the extensive involvement of scientific experts, interest groups and the public."

Lujan's direction to the team calls for the development of a plan that will promote the conservation and survival of the owl. The directive adheres to the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as mandated by law, ensuring that all matters of concern are addressed, including examining scientific evidence as well as economics.

As Team Leader, Marvin Plenert, Regional Director for U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, will have primary responsibility for managing the team, preparing a work plan, coordinating staffing and administration; drafting the recovery plan and ensuring public participation. Deputy Under Secretary Don Knowles, as Team Coordinator, will serve as Lujan's representative, providing initial and ongoing policy guidance.

On July 23, 1990, the Fish & Wildlife Service placed the Northern Spotted Owl on the threatened species list. Under the ESA, Lujan has the responsibility to develop a recovery plan for species listed as either threatened or endangered.

(more)

In addition to the Team Leader and Team Coordinator, the Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Team includes:

- . Christine Sproul, Governor's Representative,
State of California
- . Martha Pagel, Governor's Representative,
State of Oregon
- . Richard Nafziger, Governor's Representative,
State of Washington
- . Ralph Gutierrez, Wildlife Biologist,
Humboldt State University, California
- . John Tappeiner, Silviculturalist & Forest Ecologist,
Oregon State University
- . John Beuter, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Natural
Resources and the Environment, Department of Agriculture
- . Richard Holthausen, Forest & Wildlife Biologist,
Forest Service, Department of Agriculture
- . Kent Mays, Program Manager for the Northern Spotted Owl,
Forest Service, Department of Agriculture
- . Ted Heintz, Economist, Office of the Assistant Secretary for
Policy, Management and Budget, Department of the Interior
- . Wayne Elmore, Wildlife & Fisheries Biologist, Bureau of Land
Management, Department of the Interior
- . Melvin Berg, Forester, Bureau of Land Management,
Department of the Interior
- . Kenneth Lathrop, Forester, Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Department of the Interior
- . Edward Starkey, Research Biologist, National Park Service,
Department of the Interior
- . Robert Anthony, Wildlife Biologist,
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior
- . Jonathan Bart, Wildlife Biologist,
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior
- . John Fay, Division of Endangered Species,
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior